



Nirupama Subramanian

B.Com

1988 - 1991

Nirupama Subramanian was born in Chennai, grew up in Delhi and has worked all over India. She obtained her undergraduate degree from Stella Maris College, Chennai, and her MBA in finance from XLRI, Jamshedpur. Once upon a time, she worked in a bank. Now, she is a freelance corporate trainer and consultant by day and a struggling-to-stay-awake writer by night. Her short stories, travel pieces and articles have appeared in several publications and won awards. She won the Commonwealth Short Story Prize in 2006. She lives in Gurgaon with her husband, daughter and a cupboard full of books. *Keep the Change* is her first novel.

The uncoolness of her name plagues B. Damayanthi, along with the bunch of unsuitable prospective husbands her Amma throws at her and a dead-end job as an accountant in a decrepit firm in Chennai. When she finally jettisons her job and some of her inhibitions to join First Global Bank in Mumbai, Amma's parting words are: 'Be good. Don't do anything silly.' Translation: 'Stay away from sex and alcohol!' Advice that Damayanthi wants to ignore... but can she?

Soon Damayanthi is negotiating competitive corporate corridors and big-city life, aided by dubious words of wisdom from the cherub-faced Jimmy, colleague and friend. She must impress the intellectual CG who has a low opinion of her; battle Sonya Sood, flatmate and size-zero sophisticate, for the TV remote; choose between resisting or giving in to temptation in the form of the seductive Rahul; and deal with the moral dilemma of 'stealing' a million-dollar idea for her project.

A wickedly witty first novel, *Keep the Change* is a rollicking story of every girl's journey to fulfil her dreams and find her own place in the world.